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DECISION



THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL  
OF THE UNITED STATES  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548

*I Protest Against Rejection of Grant Application*

FILE:

B-201559

DATE: JAN 6 1981

MATTER OF:

New York State Waterways Project

DIGEST:

Objection to Federal agency's denial of grant application is dismissed because GAO generally does not review complaints concerning award of grants.

New York State Waterways Project (Waterways) objects to the decision by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) to reject its application for a grant under the Literature Program's Book Fair. Waterways challenges the accuracy of NEA's evaluation process.

Our Office, pursuant to our statutory obligation and authority under 31 U.S.C. § 53 (1976) to investigate the receipt, disbursement, and application of funds, reviews complaints of prospective contractors concerning the propriety of contract awards made by grantees. See 40 Fed. Reg. 42406 (1975). As we stated in 40 Fed. Reg. 42406, it is not the intent of this Office to interfere with the functions and responsibilities of grantor agencies in making and administering grants and we generally do not review complaints concerning the award of grants themselves. Accordingly, we decline to review Waterways' challenge as to the accuracy of NEA's evaluation process. Burgos & Associates, Inc., 59 Comp. Gen. 273 (1980), 80-1 CPD 155.

The complaint is dismissed.

*Milton J. Socolar*

Milton J. Socolar  
General Counsel

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